

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested for Claims 1-6, and 9-11. Claims 7-8 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1- 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,669,970 to *Balog et al.* Claim 1, from which Claims 2-5 depend, defines a screen-printing plate including a screen plate provided with two or more printing patterns disposed in a single plate frame of the screen plate, each of the two or more printing patterns being formed with a plurality of mesh holes, wherein , for at least two of the at least two or more printing patterns, a first one of the at least two or more printing patterns has mesh holes of a first size and a second one of the at least two or more printing patterns has mesh holes of a second size..

Balog et al. discloses a stencil 14 but does not disclose a screen plate provided with one or more printing patterns disposed in a single plate frame of the screen plate. There is no frame associated with the stencil 14 disclosed in *Balog et al.* The holes in the stencil are all the same size.

The claims dependent from claim 1 are also not anticipated by *Balog et al.* for reasons in addition to the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1. For example, claim 3 depends from claim 1 through claim 2 and recites that mesh holes having a first size are disposed in a first region of the screen plate and mesh holes having a second size are disposed in a second region of the screen plate, and the first region of the screen plate is at a periphery of the plate frame, and the second region of the screen plate is at a portion of the screen plate closer to a center of the screen plate than the first region. *Balog et al.* does

not disclose or suggest a combination of features including an arrangement of mesh holes with respect to a periphery of a plate frame as recited in claim 3.

Claim 4 depends from claim 3 and recites that the first size is smaller than the second size. *Balog et al.* does not disclose or suggest a plate having the claimed relationship between a first and second sizes.

Claim 5 depends from claim 1 and recites that a first group of mesh holes is closer to a periphery of the plate frame than a second group of mesh holes and has holes that are larger than holes for the second group of mesh holes. *Balog et al.* does not disclose or suggest a combination of features including a plate frame, and does not disclose or suggest the claimed relationship between sizes of a first and a second group of mesh holes.

In view of the differences between Claims 1-5 and *Balog et al.* is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-5, are not anticipated by and define patentably over *Balog et al.*

Claim 6, as amended to incorporate subject matter of claims 7-8, and from which Claims 9 and 11 depend, defines a method for manufacturing an electronic device. The method includes forming two or more printed patterns on a ceramic green sheet by pressing electrode paste through a plurality of mesh holes in two or more printing patterns in a screen-printing plate, wherein, for at least two of the two or more printing patterns, a first one of the at least two or more printing patterns has mesh holes of a first size and a second one of the at least two or more printing patterns has mesh holes of a second size, and wherein electrode paste is pressed through a first group of mesh holes in a first region of the screen-printing plate having the first size and a second group of mesh holes in a second region of the screen-printing plate having the second size, and the second region is

proximate a peripheral frame of the screen-printing plate and the first region is proximate a center of the screen-printing plate.

Balog et al. does not disclose a frame on the stencil 14 and, thus, does not disclose the combination of claim 6 wherein electrode paste is pressed through a first group of mesh holes in a first region of the screen-printing plate having a first size and a second group of mesh holes in a second region of the screen-printing plate having a second size, and the second region is proximate a peripheral frame of the screen-printing plate and the first region is proximate a center of the screen-printing plate.

In view of the differences between Claim 6 and *Balog et al.*, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 6 and the claims dependent therefrom, Claims 9 and 11, are not anticipated by *Balog et al.*

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims define patentably over the cited references. Allowance of the present application is cordially urged.

If the Examiner should be of the opinion that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: _____

Harold R. Brown III
Registration No. 36,341

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: Nov. 22, 2002



APPENDIX

Amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A screen-printing plate comprising:

a screen plate provided with two or more printing patterns disposed in a single plate frame of the screen plate, each of the two or more printing patterns being formed with a plurality of mesh holes,

wherein , for at least two of the at least two or more printing patterns [have different aperture ratios of the] , a first one of the at least two or more printing patterns has mesh holes of a first size and a second one of the at least two or more printing patterns has mesh holes of a second size.

2. (Amended) The screen-printing plate according to claim 1, wherein mesh holes having [a] the first [aperture ratio] size are disposed in a first region of the screen plate and mesh holes having [a] the second [aperture ratio] size are disposed in a second region of the screen plate.

4. (Amended) The screen-printing plate according to claim [4] 1, wherein the first [aperture ratio is higher] size is smaller than the second [aperture ratio] size.

5. (Amended) The screen-printing plate according to claim 1, wherein a first group of mesh holes is closer to a periphery of the plate frame than a second group of mesh holes

and has [a first aperture ratio that is higher] holes that are larger than [an aperture ratio]
holes for the second group of mesh holes

6. (Twice Amended) A method for manufacturing an electronic device, comprising
the steps of:

forming two or more printed patterns on a ceramic green sheet by pressing electrode
paste through a plurality of mesh holes in two or more printing patterns in a screen-printing
plate, wherein, for at least two of the two or more printing patterns [include] , a first one of
the at least two or more printing patterns has mesh holes [providing the two or more
printing patterns with different aperture ratios] of a first size and a second one of the at
least two or more printing patterns has mesh holes of a second size , and wherein electrode
paste is pressed through a first group of mesh holes in a first region of the screen-printing
plate having the first size and a second group of mesh holes in a second region of the
screen-printing plate having the second size, and the second region is proximate a
peripheral frame of the screen-printing plate and the first region is proximate a center of the
screen-printing plate.

9. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim [8] 6, wherein the first [aperture
ratio is higher] size is smaller than the second [aperture ratio] size.